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Docket No.: M4065.0345/P345-A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
J. W. Thompson, et al.

Confirmation No. 8327

Application No.: 10/686,731

Art Unit: 2822

Filed: October 17, 2003

Examiner: Amir Zarabian

For: IMPROVED METAL WIRING PATTERN
FOR MEMORY DEVICES (AS AMENDED)

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
220 20th Street, S.
Customer Window
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (the "Notice") dated July 30, 2004, Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks.

On October 17, 2003, Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment in the present application. The Preliminary Amendment contained a listing of claims. The listing included original, amended, canceled and new claims. As set forth in the Notice, claim 43 was missing from the Preliminary Amendment. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that this was not due to mis-numbering (or other error) in the Preliminary Amendment. Rather, the specification as originally filed was missing claim 43. As such, claim 43 was never originally presented.

Applicants' representative has contacted Examiner Zarabian who acknowledged that there was no claim 43 in the specification as originally filed. The Examiner recommended that Applicants request the Patent Office to renumber claims 44-54 as claims 43-53.

Pursuant to Examiner Zarabian's recommendation, Applicants hereby request that claims 44-54 (as presented in the Preliminary Amendment) be renumbered as claims 43-53. With this renumbering, Applicants respectfully request that the Preliminary Amendment be entered.

Dated: August 11, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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